

Student engineers succeed at competition

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Four Butzbach Elementary School students met the annual Odyssey of the Mind competition challenge held in Garmisch last month and returned home as second place winners in their age category.

Third-grader Robert Harilal and fourth-graders Rebecca Tien, Richard Ortiz and Dominik Kerr entered the competition with two battery-operated vehicles, called stunt mobiles, they built without adult help.

It's the first time BES was represented at the competition.

"Odyssey of the Mind is a competition that is held for students from kindergarten through college and provides them with an opportunity to develop creative problem-solving skills and learn other lifelong skills such as teamwork, evaluating ideas, making decisions and creating long-term solutions while at the same time developing self-confidence," said multi-age teacher and team coach Ginger Volkman.

Subjects range from building mechanical devices such as spring-driven vehicles and giving their own interpretation of literary classics to performing skits. Age divisions ensure a fair competition.

This year was the sixth time Volkman sponsored Department of Defense Dependents Schools students during the competition. Being married to a Soldier she relocates often and takes the program to every school she works at encouraging students and teachers to continue the program even after she has left, she said.

Getting children to think

"Another idea behind OM is to get the children to think. Actually we were hoping that they would choose something easier than the stunt mobiles," said Sue Alldaffer, gifted and talented teacher and another team coach. "But they made up their minds so we had to start asking them questions like 'what happens if' to get them to think mechanically. We gave them the basics then they had to discuss what they wanted to do and how to do it."

The children voted to make a rhinoceros and a roadrunner stunt mobile and to design matching costumes they could wear during the competition, said Harilal.

"Our parents were not allowed to help us build



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Robert Harilal (from left to right), Richard Ortiz and Rebecca Tien discuss how the stunt mobiles they built for the Odyssey of the Mind competition could be improved. Dominik Kerr, the fourth student involved in the project transferred to a German school after the competition.

them. They could only give us advice, and they had to make sure we were safe, especially when we worked with the fabric and wood," said Harilal.

Parental support was essential for the success of the project.

"Sue and I are not technical people, so we really depended on the fathers. That's why we worked on the project on Thursdays so military parents would have time in the afternoon. We really needed their expertise and knowledge to advise the kids," Volkman said.

"It was fun working on the project, and I was nervous at the competition. I am proud of our second place. Only one friend said to me that we are losers, but I think he's jealous," Harilal said.

"The balloons did not pop so we did not get all the points. But the three days in Garmisch were like a bonus. We met children from Iceland, Ireland, Bahrain and made friends with the students from Würzburg; that's just as good as winning," Tien said.

"We worked three months on the project. First we met only every Thursday, but after a while also on Saturdays and then every day. It was a lot of work, and now we have the mobiles and our costumes on display in the school, so everybody can take a look at it," said Ortiz.

Those involved in the project agree preparation for the project turned into a learning experience for the group.

"They learned how to work as a team. They learned to listen to others and to appreciate their contribution to solve the problem. They democratically discussed their ideas. Even when there was a tie they talked about what they liked about the different suggestions and not only voted for their own idea," said Volkman.

"I was really amazed by the immediate cohesiveness and camaraderie from the get go," she said.

Youth summer activities ... Youth summer activities

SAS Summer Camp

Registration for the School-Age Services Summer Camp opens May 1. This year's theme is Medieval Summer in Camelot. The camp starts June 1. Visit your School-Age Services Center for details.

YS Camp

The Youth Services Camp "B Jammin" takes place from June 20 to Aug. 19. Enrollment for this middle

school age camp begins May 16 for all participants. Camp fee is \$45 per week and includes everything. Occasional users are welcome.

Trip to Legoland

A trip to Legoland takes place June 25 and is open to the community. The cost is \$40 for participants age 4 and older and \$20 for children age 3 and under. For details call civ (06033) 65961.

Operation Purple Camp

Applications are available at the Central Enrollment Office in Building 4 on the Giessen Depot or at your local YS facilities. OPC are weeklong residential camps focusing on team building activities, recreational and leisure activities, creating emotional awareness and self-expression and increasing self-esteem and confidence through social interactions. Camps for middle

school youth grades six to eight take place July 17-23 and July 24-30 in Camp Darby, Italy and camps for high school students takes place Aug. 21-27 and Aug. 28 to Sept. 3.

Sports registration

Registration for the soccer, flag football and cheerleading season opens from May 31 to July 29. The fees are \$20 for children age 4 and up.

284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen



Photo by Joanne Amundson

Celebrating the Military Child

Giessen Child Development Center children kick off the Month of the Military Child with a parade. Throughout the month special activities such as Ice Cream Day, Kid Chef Day and Sports and Fitness Day were scheduled to celebrate the youngest members of the military community.

CLEOS update

Child and Youth Services

On-site services for CLEOS will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon May 3 and June 7 at the Butzbach Child Development Center, May 4 and June 8 at the Bad Nauheim CDC and May 5 and June 9 at the Friedberg CDC. Parents may register or re-register their child or make payments at these locations. A **Parent's Night Out** will be hosted May 20 from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Giessen CDC. Reservation and payment deadline is May 13. The cost is \$10 per child CDC age and \$6 for School-Age Services age. Children must be CLEOS registered. **Pre-toddler and preschool hourly care** space is currently available at the Bad Nauheim CDC. Also available are **two-day and part-day care** slots for preschool slots on Tuesday and Thursday. Friedberg CDC has **infant hourly care and part-day toddler** vacancies. The Friedberg CDC offers **Parental Education classes** every second Wednesday of the month

from noon to 1 p.m. For details on topics call Sha' Campbell at mil 324-3137. All 284th BSB CYS facilities offer the **Parents and Youth Participation Program** in which parents and youths can earn a 10 percent discount on fees when they assist their CYS facility. Call the Central Enrollment Office in Giessen at civ (0641) 402-8216/7028.

4H Club classes

Friedberg School-Age Services hosts various classes beginning in May through the end of the school year. **Drama class** meets every Monday and Wednesday. The cost is \$32. **Drawing class** meets on Tuesday. The cost is \$11.50. The **sports class** is held every Thursday and costs \$16. The **costume design and sewing group** meets Friday and the cost is \$14. Participants will design and sew their costumes for the drama club. All classes are from 3-4:30 p.m. For more information call Sha' Campbell at the Friedberg Child Development Center mil 324-3137.

284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

Community spotlights

Officer Candidate School board

The 284th Base Support Battalion hosts an Officer Candidate School board May 20 starting at 9 a.m. in the BSB conference room in Building 115 on the Giessen Depot. Soldiers wishing to appear before the board must submit their completed OCS packets no later than May 6 to the 284th BSB Human Support Services. Call Martina Hulse at mil 343-8995 for more information or fax to mil 343-7838.

AER contributions

Donations for this year's Army Emergency Relief campaign will be accepted through May 15. Anyone wanting to support AER, a program that provides active duty Soldiers

and their families with emergency assistance, may contribute by cash, check or payroll deduction. To pick up a form see Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Jones of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment in Building 115, Room 206 on the Giessen Depot.

Free classes and more

The Bad Nauheim Outreach Center is closed until further notice.

The Butzbach Outreach Center hosts **Parent and Me Playtime** every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. A **Coupon Social** is planned for April 29 from 1-4 p.m. and a **Checkbook Management** class takes place April 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. A **Money and Credit Management** class

is scheduled for May 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. Giessen Army Community Service hosts **Computer Skills and Basic Internet** every Tuesday from 2-4:30 p.m. Registration is required. **Federal Resume** classes are held every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. A **Checkbook Management** class will be held May 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. **Parent and Me Playtime** takes place every Friday from 10 a.m. to noon Building 12 on the Giessen Depot. Friedberg ACS offers **Stress Management** training every second Monday from 10-11:30 a.m. and an **Anger Management** class every third Monday from 10-11:30 a.m. A **Savings and Investment** class takes place May 20 from 10 a.m. to noon. A **Money and Credit Management** class will be hosted May 4 from 10 a.m. to noon. For details call Giessen ACS at mil 343-7618, Friedberg ACS at mil 324-3465 or Butzbach ACS at civ (06033) 925 329.

Wellness fair

The 284th Base Support Battalion Sports Office hosts a Health and Wellness Fair May 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Giessen Miller Hall Fitness Center. Get your cholesterol checked, learn more about proper nutrition and gain knowledge about health and wellness issues. Everyone is invited and participation is free. For details call mil 343-7201.

Auditions for children's theater

The Butzbach Elementary School hosts auditions for the Missoula Children's Theater play "Wiz of the West" May 16 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Rehearsals take place May 17-21 from 3:30-5:30 and from 6-8 p.m. at the Butzbach Elementary School. Students of the Giessen, Butzbach and Bad Nauheim elementary schools as well as the Giessen Middle and High School are welcome. For details call David Turner

at civ (0641) 402-6515 or Sue Morin at civ (06033) 74520.

Auto skills hours

Beginning May 1 the Friedberg Auto Skills Center opens Wednesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is closed Monday, Tuesday and on federal holidays. For details call mil 324-3218. The Giessen Auto Skills Center opens Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is closed Wednesday, Thursday and on federal holidays. For more information call mil 343-7050.

Cinco de Mayo celebration

The Ironside Lanes and Outback Lounge celebrates Cinco de Mayo with five different special Margaritas and other beverages May 5 from 4-11 p.m. as festive music plays throughout the night. For details call mil 343-7702/6172.



Photo by Spc. Bradley Cunningham

Trip to the past

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor, listen to a tour guide at the Fulda Cathedral during a Spiritual Formation Day trip. The baroque cathedral, established in 744, is the final resting place of St. Boniface, the first Christian missionary to successfully convert the pagan masses in the eighth century. "It's hard to imagine the number of people and all the time needed to create such a magnificent place to worship God," said Spc. Brian Cunningham of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-37th Armor. "And all Boniface probably had to begin with was a few oak trees to worship under. Cunningham said he was most intrigued by the painstaking detail of the art and architecture, the paintings, statues, woodcarvings, marble and alabaster. (Courtesy of Sgt. Charles Green, 1st Brigade)

Team building enhances independence

By Alexandra Williams
284th Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Soldiers focus on mission readiness to prepare for war. To support their Soldiers, Army families must understand Army life and be self-sufficient when their Soldiers deploy.

Army Family Team Building classes provide training to families to become independent, prepare for the future and be able to help others.

Several spouses attended the Level III class at the AFTB center in Butzbach April 5-6, and discussed the advantages of the free training.

"I always thought that I should attend AFTB, because there are so many things I just don't know and so many questions I need answers for," said Catherine Hamill. "I could ask other spouses, but I want to prepare for the future to know where to go when I need something.

"During the last deployment I had (German) wives or girlfriends asking me questions, and next time I want to be able to give them a competent answer."

Gabi Brazier has been an

Army family member for 14 years, and she said she thought she knew everything about the Army. Her husband's upcoming promotion prompted her to attend AFTB training.

"With my husband's promotion my duties change as well," said Brazier. "New situations will come up, especially when the troops deploy again.

"Taking AFTB classes spared me from learning things the hard way. It enhances the independence of spouses, and I am glad I took all three levels, because there is always something I don't know especially with the changes the Army is going through," she said.

Daniela Jensen was married in January. As a service member in the German Air Force she is aware of family support the military offers, but she wanted to find out more about the services in the 284th Base Support Battalion.

"The German army has no housing areas and housing offices for instance. I know that certain things are handled differently in both armies," said Jensen.

"I am expecting our first



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Participants of the Level III AFTB training talk about the advantages of the free training.

baby, and my husband deploys in a couple of months. I want to prepare myself and find out what to expect. I find it important to find out what's available for me because I cannot call my husband down-range to ask where I can get help. It will make him feel better too when he knows that I can take care of myself," she said.

During the three different levels of training participants

learn not only to read Leave and Earnings Statements but also receive training in communication and the rank structure as well as basic problem solving and where to find resources, said Bridgette Lester.

"I took the training because I am the co-FRG (Family Readiness Group) leader for our battery, and I'd like to be able to help families," said Lester. "I will encourage others to attend the training especially in

regards to the upcoming deployment. You can really learn a lot about the Army culture."

"The AFTB training is very professional, and I can only advise others to take the training," Hamill said.

If you are interested in the free AFTB training call the 284th BSB Army Community Service in Giessen at mil 343-7618 or Friedberg ACS at mil 324-3465 for a schedule of upcoming classes.

File claim report properly after a car accident

By Martin Wetzler
U.S. Army Europe Legal Office

You have just had your first car crash at your new European assignment. What happens next depends on what kind of vehicle you had an accident with, who is at fault and when the accident occurred.

The following will help you with the process of properly filing your claim.

If you're driving your privately owned vehicle and have an accident with a government vehicle or an Army and Air Force Exchange Service vehicle, first contact the Military Police. The MPs will create an accident report which will document what exactly happened, who is involved and who is at fault. After the accident is recorded by the police and if no one is injured and you are not at fault, step one on your road to compensation is to go to your local claims office as soon as possible. Your claim has to be received by the claims office within three months of the accident, even though the statute of limita-

tions could vary depending on your status.

If your vehicle is still drivable, take it to the nearest claims office before taking any other step. At the claims office claims personnel will inform you of the proper claim filing procedures and schedule an appointment with you to have the damages to your vehicle inspected. If you already picked up a copy of the police accident report from the Provost Marshal's Office, take it with you to the damage inspection appointment.

At the appointment, claims personnel will take pictures of the damages to your vehicle and create a claims damage report. Do not go out on your own and get an estimate before talking to the claims office. They know exactly what to do to get your compensation.

Never go out on your own and get an appraisal (Gutachten). Appraisals are rather costly in Germany and the applicable Army Regulation will not allow for the reimbursement of the cost, leaving you with high out of pocket ex-

penses. If an appraisal should be absolutely necessary, the claims office will order one for you.

Following these guidelines is crucial if you want to get compensated for your damages in a timely manner.

If your vehicle is not drivable after the accident, have it towed to the nearest auto repair shop. If you are an ADAC member, you can call their towing service and they will do it for free. You still have to contact the claims office and let them know of the accident before having the auto repair shop work on your vehicle.

The claims office will set up an appointment to meet with you at the auto repair shop to do the damage investigation and to inform you of the claim filing procedures.

Privately Owned Vehicle

If you have an accident with a local national or U.S. Army Europe plated vehicle, be sure to contact either military or German police. Equally impor-



tant, make sure to obtain the insurance information of the other parties involved, then make contact with their insurance company and find out exactly what you have to do to file a claim with them.

In almost all cases, it is advisable to avoid having anything done to your vehicle or to get a rental car before getting advice from either your local claims office, or the other party's insurance company. One phone call now could save you a lot of time, money and heartache later on. If you have any questions call Mary Lochhas at the Friedberg Claims Office at mil 324-3864.

Something for all at bazaar, fest

Community to hold Mother's Day Bazaar, Children's Fest on Pioneer

By Marie DeLopez

414th Base Support Battalion Marketing

A Mother's Day Bazaar will be held May 6-8 at Hanau's Pioneer Fitness Center featuring food, entertainment and vendors from all over Europe.

The event, hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation, is expected to draw hundreds of people.

The bazaar is an opportunity for the community to gear up for upcoming summer events and shop for not-so-easily-found items.

Items for sale include antiques, art prints, furniture, Polish pottery, clothing and European foods. A myriad of handcrafted items will also be available for purchase. Other wares include



Photo by Marie DeLopez

Shoppers look for bargains at last year's Mother's Day Bazaar.

souvenirs, memorabilia and novelty items.

The bazaar will be held May 6 from noon to 6 p.m., May 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and May 8 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In conjunction with the bazaar

younger visitors can enjoy a Children's Fest May 7-8 outside the fitness center with bungee jumper and rides. There will also be games and activities for youths of all ages.

Child and Youth Services will host

such children's activities as games with prizes, face painting, a jumping castle and a mechanical camel ride.

The Children's Fest will be held May 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and May 8 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This event will be a win-win for everybody," said Silvia Berglund of the 414th Base Support Battalion's Directorate of Community Activities.

"This event has been, for years, a wonderful opportunity to bring families together," said Lisa Crews, special events project manager.

"We've got a great number of vendors with a huge variety of items sure to please every taste," said Crews. "With the support of CYS providing the fun and entertainment for the children and the amount of shopping opportunities offered, it's going to be awesome."

Volunteers are still needed to ensure the bazaar's success. Call civ (06181) 88-1550 or mil 322-1550 for more information.

Flag flown over Gelnhausen

Son presents former MP special Father's Day gift

By Anemone Rueger

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Father's Day on June 18 will bring a special gift to a former Soldier and retired police officer.

The gift is a U.S. flag that has traveled thousands of miles to be flown in Gelnhausen in honor of James S. Stanton Sr.

"The idea came about because when I was having my retirement ceremony, I did what is called the 'passing of the flag,'" said Jimmy Stanton, Stanton Sr.'s son, who served in the Navy for 20 years.

"You have sailors who represent you starting from the lowest grade up to your current one, passing the folded flag and saluting off," said Jimmy. "Once I received the flag, I headed over to my Dad and presented it to him."

But this flag had more of a symbolic value and had to be returned as Jimmy's real flag flown over Ground Zero was already in his shadow box.

"My father was so disappointed that he wasn't able to keep that flag that I came up with the idea of having another flag flown in a special place for him. Where else would be special to him but where he served in the U.S. Army and where he did 20 years of service in the Suffolk County Police Dept."

Jimmy contacted the 104th Area Support Group with the request to fly the flag over a Frankfurt or Gelnhausen installation where his father served with the 503rd Military Police Company from 1962-1964.

"This undertaking seems to be such a fantastic idea and would be touching for my father," he wrote after he learned that although most of the installa-

tions had been closed in the meantime, Gelnhausen Elementary School remained a military post, and Lt. Col. Howard Malone, 104th ASG director of emergency services, suggested flying the flag there.

"Before he got drafted, my father joined the Auxiliary Police as a volunteer to learn to be a patrol officer," is how Jimmy described his father's early passion for his vocation. Fear of being in a new country turned to excitement, he said about his father's service as a military policeman in Germany. "He loved the country."

Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Sandefur of the 104th ASG Provost Marshal's Office flew the flag sent from the United States over Gelnhausen on March 17. Folded and signed, the flag went back to Jimmy and on to the Suffolk County Police Department in New York,



Photo by Anemone Rueger

Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Sandefur (left) and Lt. Col. Howard Malone of the 104th Area Support Group's Directorate of Emergency Services take down the flag at Gelnhausen Elementary School.

where Stanton served after his Army service, for the same procedure.

"The man who built my own shadow box is going to build me a box for my Dad," Jimmy said, "and we will come up with some unique idea for a box design like a pair of handcuffs or a gun or something that might combine both his services in the police and the Army" — just in time for Father's Day.

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Photo by Ulrike Raab

Sgt. 1st Class Vaniser Earls and Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Stogner check in fellow Soldiers from the 127th Military Police Company at the Fliegerhorst Fitness Center during the initial stage of reintegration processing and training after their return from supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Reintegration eases transition for MPs

By Daysha Scruggs
Special to the Herald Union

Like all Soldiers returning from a combat zone, members of the 127th Military Police Company have changed and so have their families.

Reintegrating into a community after being away for a year can be a challenge. That is why Soldiers returning from Iraq attend a week of reintegration training aimed at preparing them for the transition from combat to a world where people are not trying to kill them every time they leave the base.

The reintegration process includes everything from reunion briefings and medical screenings to replacing expired drivers licenses.

"It takes some adjustment, but overall I am glad to be back home," said Spc. Aric Lewallen.

As they reintegrated into the community, the MPs reflected on all they accomplished in Iraq.

The 127th Military Police Company was recognized as the Most Out-



Photo by Ulrike Raab

Sgt. Charlene Barding inoculates Staff Sgt. Candace Garland during the first day of the 127th MP Company's reintegration processing and training.

standing MP Company in Army Central Command for its achievements in establishing and stabilizing the new Iraqi police force.

The MPs helped train Iraqi Police forces and set an example at more than 20 police stations in western Baghdad.

"It's a real honor to win such an award," said Lewallen. "It just helps show what kind of standards the 127th MP Company demands."

"I like knowing that I made a difference in the way the Iraqi police think," said Pfc. Eric Baumberger. "They watched and learned from us; then they put it into effect."

The MPs' contribution to the Iraqi election included assisting with the grass roots campaign and securing the voting sites. Many of the MPs have received awards as well, ranging from the Army Commendation Medal for Valor to Purple Hearts.

"I feel that not I as a person, but my company as a whole changed the lives of the Iraqi people," said Spc. Cody Brown.

How does it feel to be home?

"I love being back," said Bamberger.

"I can get up and not have to worry about what's going to happen next. Better yet, I wake up in my own room every day."

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

Community notes . . . Community notes

Spring craft fair

A craft fair will be held April 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hanau Middle School cafeteria. Call Jane Baer at civ (06181) 906 6019.

HeBrews Cafe

Join HeBrews Cafe every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. at the Büdingen Chapel for a brief Bible study and dinner. Contact Chaplain (Capt.) Tony Petros at mil 321-4810 or civ (06042) 80-810 for details.

PWOC National Day of Prayer

The Hanau Chapter of the Protestant Women of the Chapel invites members of the Hanau community to join PWOC along with communities across the United States in observing the National Day of Prayer May 5, 9-11:30 a.m. at Pioneer Chapel on Pioneer Kaserne. At 9:30 a.m. the general public (women and men) is invited to join in prayer for the United States and its leaders. After the prayer meeting a Cinco de Mayo luncheon with Tex-Mex cuisine will be served. The event is sponsored by the Chaplains Office. Call Robin Longworth at civ (06181) 575 775 for more information.



BOSS meetings

Join BOSS at the Community Activity Center, Building 1355, on Fliegerhorst Kaserne every first and third Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Contact Spc. Little at civ (0163) 597 9787 or by email Lloyd.little@us.army.mil.

Spring clean-up

Spring clean-up throughout the Hanau community will take place on May 4. Building coordinators are asked to get their supplies from Self Help as early as possible. Call mil 322-1520 or (06181) 88-1520 for information.

Career launch

Hanau Youth Services Career Launch and Job Ready is a Boys and Girls Club program that started March 28 and will run until May 13. The program at the Galaxy Middle/Teen Center, Building 200 on

New Argonner Kaserne is designed to enable youth to investigate career options and opportunities and to prepare for Summer Hire jobs. Stop by and sign up or call for training on how to complete a work application and more. The Summer Hire vacancy announcement and the opportunity for family members to apply for Summer Hire positions opened March 31 and will run through May 13. The age limit to participate in the Summer Hire program is 14-23 years. For more information contact Hanau Youth Services at mil 322-8283 or civ (06181) 88-8231.

Büdingen WIC-O

Starting in May the Büdingen Womens, Infants and Children-Overseas will be open every first and third Wednesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Kay Klumpyan, senior wellness coordinator, Hanau WIC-O, at mil 322-9636 or civ (06181) 88-9636.

Chapel Armed Forces Day celebration

The Hanau community hosts a Chapel Armed Forces Day celebration at Pioneer Kaserne on May 22 beginning at 11 a.m. The event starts with a combined Protestant worship service in the Evening Star Theater, followed by a catered barbecue near Building 9 at 12:30 p.m. Family activities and games for all ages will kick off at 1:30 p.m. Bring your family, friends, lawn chairs and a dessert. Contact your unit chaplain or the community chaplain at mil 322-1570 or civ (06181) 88-1570 for more information.

ACS offers employment help

Familiarize yourself with employment opportunities and application procedures at an **Employment Orientation** conducted in Hanau every Tuesday from 10-11:30 a.m. This class is also offered at the Büdingen Family Outreach Center on Armstrong Barracks May 19 from 11 a.m. to noon. Learn how to create a conventional resume at a **Resume workshop** May 16 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Improve your interviewing skills at an **Interview Techniques workshop** May 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. Find out what is appropriate to wear for an interview at a **Dress for Success workshop** May 9 from 10-11:30 a.m. All classes in Hanau are held from 10-11:30 a.m. on Pioneer Kaserne, Building 19, Room 28. Call mil 322-9191 or civ (06181) 88-9191 for details.

Volunteer recognition

All community volunteers are invited to attend a volunteer recognition ceremony at Club i on Fliegerhorst Kaserne May 5. The social starts at 6 p.m. followed by the official ceremony at 7 p.m. All registered community volunteers will receive invitations. Any unregistered volunteers should stop by ACS, Building 19 on Pioneer Kaserne, and register with the Army Volunteer Corps coordinator. Call mil 322-9524 or civ (06181) 88-9524 for more information.

AFTB classes

AFTB offers **Level I training** in Hanau April 28-29, **Level II** May 11-13, **Level III** May 16-18 and **Instructor training** June 7, 9 and 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. **Level II Soldier Track** will be offered from April 25-29 and **Level III** from May 16-20 (five promotion points per track). The Soldier track classes are held from 6-9:15 p.m. Call mil 322-5308 or civ (06181) 88-5308 to sign up and reserve child care if needed. Child care reservations must be made one week before each level. All classes in Hanau take place in the Building 514 conference room at the Wolfgang Shopping Center. AFTB also offers **Level I training** in Büdingen May 25-26 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. The Büdingen class is held at ACS, Building 2207, on Armstrong Barracks. AFTB is also looking for instructors or master trainers.

USO tickets, classes

The USO is selling tickets for the **MWR Teen Dance Marathon** scheduled for May 20. Tickets cost \$5. USO is selling season tickets for the **Frankfurt Galaxy home games** for €25



Photo by Karl Weisel

Frankfurt Galaxy cheerleaders warm up the crowd at a cheerleading competition. The cheerleaders also keep the crowd occupied during slow moments at Galaxy games. Tickets for Galaxy home games are available from the USO.

per ticket. The dates of the games are April 23 (vs. Hamburg Sea Devils), April 30 (vs. Rhein Fire), May 14 (vs. Cologne Centurions), May 28 (vs. Berlin Thunder). A beginner's **cake baking/decorating class** will be held in the kitchen of Building 19 on Pioneer Kaserne every third Thursday from 3-6 p.m. The class, which can be held in English or Spanish, will cost \$40 with everything provided. A **Hip Hop dance class** will take place April 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 2:30-3:30 at the Five Pfennig Playhouse Dance Studio on Old Argonner Kaserne. The course costs \$48; single classes are \$10. The class is open to teens and adults. Stop by the Hanau USO, Building 19 on Pioneer Kaserne, to sign up for a class or purchase a ticket. The USO staff thanks everyone who helped raise

funds to buy outdoor furniture. Call the Hanau USO at mil 322-8725 or civ (06181) 88-8725.

Blood drive

A blood drive will be held May 24-25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Pioneer Fitness Center, Building 41 on Pioneer Kaserne.

Islamic service

A Jummah service will be held Fridays at 1 p.m. and an Islamic Studies class Fridays at 7 p.m. at Fliegerhorst Chapel on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Call the Chaplains Office at mil 322-9609/1570 or civ (06181) 88-9609/1570 for details.

Coupon socials

Army Community Service holds coupon socials every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Büdingen ACS, Building 207 on Armstrong Barracks. Call mil 321-4786 or civ (06042) 80-786.

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

Unit keeps Soldiers healthy in Iraq

By Troy Darr

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Living and working in a combat zone can be dangerous. Improvised explosive devices, ambushes, incoming mortar rounds and insect bites are just some of the deadly hazards facing Soldiers in Iraq.

Protecting Soldiers from insect bites was one of the missions of the Hanau-based 133rd Medical Detachment (Preventive Medicine) which deployed to Iraq from February 2004 to February 2005. The detachment, commanded by Maj. Joanne Cline, environmental science officer, performed base camp assessments at Camp Victory and 15 base camps in the area every month and made recommendations to camp leaders on how to improve sanitation and protect Soldiers from vector-borne diseases such as Leishmaniasis.

In addition to sanitation assessments, unit members gave classes on uniform treatment to protect from insects, issued supplies, tested water for bacteria and used fogging machines to kill mosquitoes.

"Once we went to Iraq we had an immense workload covering 15 base camps," said Spc. Charles Hutton, preventive medicine specialist. "It was great that we got to see how a lot of units operate. Now that we're back, it's good to sit back and relax."

Capt. Kendra Lawrence, the detachment's executive officer and an entomologist, said the first months in Iraq were the toughest for the unit during



Sgt. Jennifer Fitzpatrick and other 133rd Medical Detachment Soldiers prepare for a convoy in Iraq.

the deployment.

"When you only have nine people, it's easy to be overlooked sometimes, but we got lots of support from other units on Camp Victory," said Lawrence. "Getting started and establishing relations was challenging."

"Once that was done, it went pretty smoothly. We had good living conditions. We left our replacements sitting far better than when we arrived."

Lawrence said in the beginning communications were also a challenge.

"When we got to (Camp) Victory, even a year into Iraq, communication was not really firmly established. When we got there it was bare bones. About six months into it communications got better."

After the uproar over Abu Ghraib last year the 133rd was also tasked to provide sanitation assessments of Abu Ghraib

Detention Facility, 20 miles west of Baghdad, and Camp Bucca Theater Internment Facility near Umm Qasar in Southern Iraq.

Lawrence said to prepare for the new task Cline made a five-page checklist for her Soldiers to use when assessing the detention facilities.

"There is nothing in Army manuals to tell us how to do sanitation inspections for a detention center," said Lawrence.

"I think we made an impact there, because we did see improvements over time," she said. "We had some impact on their health and welfare while they were there."

The Soldiers had good days and bad while living and working in Iraq.

"The worst part of going to Iraq was getting shot at...," said Spc. Laurissa Swanson, preventive medicine specialist. "We were very lucky. We were only

engaged once traveling from the Basra airport to Camp Bucca.

"Our gunner (a Military Police Soldier) was hit. We had a lot of support from the MPs because we only had our M-16s. They took us everywhere and really helped us out."

Spc. Ulises Gonzalez, preventive medicine specialist, said his favorite part of the deployment was "to go out into the villages and help other people like giving the children shoes or candy."

"I like the cultural shock," said Spc. Denis Reyes-Mercado. "It allowed me to compare my reality with others. That helped me be more thankful for the things in my life and appreciate other cultures."

"It was a long, hard year, but it was worth it," said Swanson. "I personally learned about myself and my job. In the end it was a great experience."

"A lot of people only see the bad things that are happening in Iraq. As medical people we got to see some of the good interactions with the Iraqis," she said.

After their return to Hanau the Soldiers took 15 days of block leave.

After recovery operations are complete, the unit will begin training for the next mission; however, all but Lawrence will be leaving the unit before recovery operations are done.

Some of the Soldiers plan to separate from the Army to attend college, and others will go on to new assignments, but Lawrence said they will always have those experiences they shared while serving in Iraq.

Pioneer Fitness Center hosts family-friendly run, walk through countryside

By Troy Darr

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

On a chilly Saturday morning 20 runners and walkers gathered at the Pioneer Fitness Center to enjoy a family-friendly 10K run or a 5K walk through the countryside between

Hanau and Erlensee.

The 414th Base Support Battalion's Pioneer Fitness Center in Hanau hosted the event April 9 to promote physical fitness.

"The purpose of the run/walk is for the community to have something to do together, along with it being some

type of exercise for the whole family including the pets," said Leland Tabb, 414th BSB Community Recreation Division.

The winners of the 10K run were Bill Staniewicz, 44.01; Tim Vedder, 46.00; and Siu Mapu, 47.40.

The next event at Pioneer is a community volksmarch scheduled for June 11.

Hanau Community Sports and Fitness Event Calendar 2005

☛ May 15 German-American Track and Field Meet (Bruchköbel)

☛ May 28 second annual Criterium (Bike Race) (Location TBD)

☛ June 11 Community Volksmarch (Pioneer)

☛ June 18 Hanau 10 Miler (Gelnhausen)

☛ July 9-10 Softball Invitational (Pioneer)

☛ July 23 Paintball Invitational

(Fliegerhorst/Grossauheim)

☛ Aug. 20 Boxing Invitational (Cardwell)

☛ Sept. 10-11 Büdingen Bash (Büdingen)

☛ Sept. 24 Biathlon (20K Run and 15K Bike) (Pioneer)

☛ Sept. 24-25 USFE Track and Field Championships (TBD)

☛ Oct. 15-16 Wrestling Invitational (Fliegerhorst)

☛ Oct. 29 1/1st Cavalry Box-a-Mania (Büdingen)

☛ Nov. 19 5K Walk/10K Run "Hanau Smoke Out and Turkey Trot" (Pioneer)

☛ Nov. 26 Arm Wrestling Invitational (Cardwell)

☛ Dec. 9-10 Basketball Invitational (Pioneer)

All event locations are subject to change due to military missions and other circumstances.



Photo by Troy Darr

Runners start the day with a 10K trot from Hanau to Erlensee hosted by the Pioneer Fitness Center.